

CHUGACH NATIONAL FOREST

SCHEDULE OF NEPA PROPOSED ACTIONS

January 1, 1999 - December 31, 1999

Enclosed is our current list of the proposed projects on the Chugach National Forest. If you know of someone who would like to be added to or removed from our mailing list, please call or write Linda Kelly, Environmental Coordinator, Chugach National Forest, 3301 "C" Street, Suite 300, Anchorage, Alaska 99503-3998, (907) 271-2527 or FAX her at (907) 271-3992. To comment or receive information on a specific project or to review a completed (Environmental Assessment) prior to the final decision, please call or write the contact person listed for the specific project in which you are interested. Addresses and telephone numbers are listed in each section.

SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE

Forest Plan Revision

Location: Chugach National Forest, southcentral Alaska.

Description: The Forest is revising its Land Management Plan. The original plan, completed in 1984, will be revised to reflect changes to the environmental, social, or legal conditions that have come about since the plan was approved.

Scoping Status: Formal scoping commenced with the publication of the Notice of Intent in the Federal Register on April 21, 1997 (Volume 62, Number 76). Preliminary revision issues were identified in the first edition of the Revision newsletter. During the months of November and December 1997, public workshops were conducted throughout southcentral Alaska. Over 1,000 letters, containing over 3,000 comments, were received during the scoping period. Analysis of those comments is now complete, and was used to identify the significant issues. A summary of interest statements was sent out. Collaborative Learning workshops will be conducted in March 1999, to allow members of the public to comment on formulating draft alternatives.

Analysis Status: The Analysis of the Management Situation (AMS) which is a 'need to change' assessment of current management direction has been recently completed. The significant issues have been described as 'situation statements' which are 'Public/Agency Interests' that are mutually exclusive or otherwise in conflict. The interdisciplinary team is designing management prescriptions to achieve public and agency interests. These prescriptions will serve as a tool box for construction of alternatives which will address the Situation Statements.

Decision Date: The Draft Forest Plan and Environmental Impact Statement are scheduled for completion in 1999, and the final versions in June 2000. The Regional Forester is the Responsible Official on the Revision to the Forest Plan.

Contact Person: Gary Lehnhausen, Forest Supervisor's Office, (907)-271-2560.

GLACIER RANGER DISTRICT
P.O. Box 129, Girdwood, AK, 99587-0129
(907) 783-3242

DEIDRE ST. LOUIS
District Ranger

| PROJECT TITLE | LOCATION | DESCRIPTION | SCOPING STATUS | ANALYSIS STATUS CZMA Category (see note 1) | DECISION DATE AND SIGNATURE AUTHORITY | CONTACT PERSON |
|--|---|---|------------------------|--|---|--------------------------------|
| NEW PROPOSAL Williwaw Creek & Willow Pond Fish Habitat Enhance- ment. Environmental Assessment. | Portage Valley | Improve instream/lake habitat by introducing organic cover structures, modify the outlet to the lake, and con- sider further accessible fishing opportunities. | Begin January 1999 | In progress CZMA - (1) | 1999 District Ranger | Rob Spangler (907) 783-3242 |
| NEW PROPOSAL Alder Pond Day Use Recreation Site Development. Environmental Assessment. | | | | | | |
| Boomerang Pond/Explorer Creek Salmon Habitat En- hancement. Environmental Assessment. | Portage Valley | The Forest Service is proposing to enhance salmon rearing and spawning habitat. | Began November 1998 | In progress CZMA - (1) | 1999 District Ranger | Rob Spangler (907) 783-3242 |
| Fisheries Improvement Projects. Categorical Exclusion or Environmental Assessment. | Portage Valley north of Alaska Railroad grade, and the upper/mid Twentymile River system. | The Forest Service is proposing to evaluate and en- hance salmon rearing and spawning habitat. | Began April, 1998 | Public input is being analyzed and field recon- naissance is currently occurring. CZMA - DFA (1) | April 1999 District Ranger | Rob Spangler (907) 783-3242 |
| Special Use Permit. Chugach Powder Guides, Inc. Environmental Assessment. | Glacier/Winner Creek, Twen- tymile River, Placer River Valley, Skookum Creek, Bench Peak, Grandview, Ptar- migan and Moose Creek. | Chugach Powder Guides, Inc. proposes to provide outfitted/guided helicopter supported skiing December through April. | Complete | Complete CZMA - FL/P (2) | December 15, 1998 District Ranger | Elaine Gross (907) 783-3242 |
| Special Use Permit. ERA Aviation. Environmental Assessment. | Twentymile, Spencer, Eagle, and Skookum Glaciers. | ERA Aviation proposes to land helicopters on glaciers or adjacent moraines and allow passengers an op- portunity to explore the area for recreational purposes. | Complete | In progress CZMA - FL/P (2) | Spring 1999 District Ranger | Elaine Gross (907) 783-3242 |
| Spencer Glacier Sand, Gravel, & Rock Quarry Environmental Assessment. | Sec. 11,12,13,14; T.7N., R.2E. | The Forest Service is evaluating the site for continued use as a common variety minerals source of gravel and rock. | Scoping postponed | CZMA - DFA (1) | After locatable min- erals determination | Cliff Fox (907) 783-3242 |

CORDOVA RANGER DISTRICT
612 Second Street, Cordova, AK 99574-0280
(907) 424-7661

CALVIN O. BAKER
District Ranger

| PROJECT TITLE | LOCATION | DESCRIPTION | SCOPING STATUS | ANALYSIS STATUS CZMA Category (see note 1) | DECISION DATE AND SIGNATURE AUTHORITY | CONTACT PERSON |
|---|--|---|--|--|--|---|
| Knowles Head Watershed Analysis. | Knowles Head, between Port Fidalgo and Port Gravina, Prince William Sound. T.13S., R.7 & 8W., CRM. | Cordova Ranger District is conducting a watershed analysis to identify potential watershed restoration projects on lands purchased by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council from the Tatitlek Corporation, to be administered by the Chugach National Forest. The area has been extensively harvested and roaded. | Comments con- cerning the analysis are wel- come now. Ad- ditional scoping will occur this winter. | Began January 1998. Data being complied and analyzed. Potential projects will be identified through both internal and external scoping. ACMP - not applicable at this analysis level. | No decision docu- ment. Findings from the watershed analy- sis will be incorpo- rated into Forest Plan Revision and deci- sion documents for individual projects. | Susan Kesti (907) 424-7661 |
| Guided Heli-skiing. Environmental Assessment. | Mountainous component of all lands administered by the Cordova Ranger District; including, the coastal moun- tains of eastern Prince Wil- liam Sound; the Chugach Range to the north and west of Cordova; and Montague, Hinchinbrook, and Hawkins Islands in Prince William Sound. | Numerous heli-ski operators have applied for Special Use Permits to conduct guided heli-ski operations annually between the months of March through May. Heli-ski operations could be conducted from Valdez, Cordova, Thompson Pass, or from boat based opera- tions in Prince William Sound. Some operators have State of Alaska heli-ski permits and now wish to ex- pand and include National Forest lands within their operation. | Began October, 1998 | Ongoing ACMP - FL/P (1) | June, 1999 District Ranger | Bruce Campbell (907) 424-7661 |
| Bering Coalfields Access. (Carbon Mountain Road) NEPA - EXEMPT Environmental Analysis. | The proposed road would originate at the Copper River Highway near mile-post 41, follow along the Martin River Valley approximately 30 miles, connecting the Copper River Highway to CAC land on the eastern edge of the Cordova Ranger District. | Road access to the CAC land is guaranteed under the 1982 Settlement Agreement between the State and- Federal Governments and Chugach Natives Inc. (now Chugach Alaska Corporation [CAC]). The proposed location generally follows a route identified in the settlement. | Began October, 1996 | The USFS and CAC reviewed the proposed route in June 1998. The Forest Service will use CAC environmental stud- ies to specify location, timing and construction standards in the ease- ments and permits. ACMP - FL/P (1) | The conveyance of an easement to CAC to provide for road con- struction is expected to take place Febru- ary 1999. SEE FOOTNOTE 2 | Cal Baker, USFS (907) 424-7661 Rick Rogers, CAC 560 E 34th Ave. Suite 200 Anchorage, AK 99503 (907) 563-8866 |
| Issue and Reissue a Variety of Outfitter-Guide and other Special Use Permits. | Lands administered by the Cordova Ranger District at various locations in eastern Prince William Sound and the Copper River Delta. | Numerous special use permit applications and permit renewals such as commercial videography, temporary installations of monitoring equipment, navigational aids, geologic survey work, encampments, and outfit- ter and guide services. | As needed | A "Recreation Use Car- rying Capacity Analysis" (completed August 1994) is used to evaluate hunt- ing outfitter and guide permit requests. ACMP - DFA or FL/P (1) | Decisions are made throughout the year as each application or request is evaluated. | Dixon Sherman Bruce Campbell (907) 424-7661 |

SEWARD RANGER DISTRICT
334 Fourth Avenue, Seward, AK 99664-0390
(907) 424-7661

RON FREEMAN
Acting District Ranger

| PROJECT TITLE | LOCATION | DESCRIPTION | SCOPING STATUS | ANALYSIS STATUS CZMA Category (see note 1) | DECISION DATE AND SIGNATURE AUTHORITY | CONTACT PERSON |
|---|--|--|---|--|---|---|
| NEW PROPOSAL Kiosk Construction. Categorically Excluded Action with Project File. | Resurrection Pass Trail South, Cooper Landing. | Construct interpretive trailhead kiosk for "Leave No Trace" camping program. | Began January 1999. | In Progress CZMA - DFA (3) | August 1999 District Ranger | Irene Lindquist (907) 224-3374 |
| Guided/non-guided Use Allotment. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo. | Resurrection Pass, Devil's Pass and Summit Creek Trails | Determine percentage of guided versus non-guided use on these trails | Began October 1998 | In Progress CZMA - DFA(3) | February 1999 District Ranger | Karen Kromrey or Shannon Skibeness (907) 783-3242 |
| Kenai Lake Work Center Timber Salvage Project. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo. | Seward Highway, Mile 23. | Harvest spruce trees killed or infested by the spruce bark beetle. Harvested areas will be replanted. | Began October 1998 | In Progress CZMA - DFA (3) | March 1999 District Ranger | Karen Kromrey (907) 224-3374 |
| Hope Timber Products. Environmental Assessment. | Hope, between Palmer and Resurrection Creek Roads. | Harvest spruce trees killed, infested, or at risk by the spruce bark beetle. A total of 2mmbf would be harvested over 5 years. Harvested areas will be replanted and 652 acres burned. | Began July 1995. | New preferred alternative issued June, 1998. CZMA - DFA (3) | February 1999 District Ranger | Karen Kromrey (907) 224-3374 |
| Firewood/Houselog Permit Areas. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo. | Seward Hwy, Mile 15-59; Sterling Hwy, Mile 37-55; and Hope Hwy, Mile 0-15. | Identify and open areas to the public for personal use firewood, houselog, and commercial use firewood harvest. Temporary roads may be constructed. | Ongoing. | Ongoing CZMA - DFA (3) | Decisions will be issued at various time by the Seward District Ranger. | Karen Kromrey (907) 224-3374 |
| Hemlock Firewood Area. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo. | Hope Highway, Mile 14. | Live hemlock trees will be thinned and bark beetle infested spruce cut. | Began October 1998 | In Progress CZMA - DFA (3) | June 1999 District Ranger | Karen Kromrey (907) 224-3374 |
| Cooper Lake Dam Project. Environmental Assessment. | Cooper Lake, Cooper Landing. | Chugach Electric Association proposes to modify the existing spillway pending FERC approval. This change would raise the high water level 12 feet. | Began November 1997. Draft EA available. | In Progress CZMA - FL/P (1) | FERC decision. Decision date undecided. | Donna Peterson (907) 224-3374 |
| Upper Palmer Creek Road Reconstruction. Categorically Excluded Action with Project File. | Hope, Palmer Creek Road, from Mile 5.1 to the Lucky Strike Mine. | Replace drainage structures, brush, and construct pull-outs. | Began October 1997. | In Progress CZMA - DFA (3) | August 1998. District Ranger | Bill Shuster (907) 224-3374 |

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|---|---|---|---|--|--|---|
| Lost Lake Trail Reconstruction. Environmental Assessment. | Seward Highway, Mile 5, Lost Lake Subdivision. | Relocate 600 feet of trail to correct trespass situation. | Began March 1998 | Complete CZMA - DFA (1) | May 1999 District Ranger | Pat O'Leary (907) 224-3374 |
| Backcountry Designated Campsites. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo. | Ptarmigan Lake Trail, Mile 6; Lost Lake Trail, Mile 4.5-5; Crescent Lake Cabin. | Develop 5-20 tent camping sites. | Began October 1998. | Sites identified CZMA - DFA (3) | May 1999 District Ranger | Irene Lindquist (907) 224-3374 |
| Ptarmigan Creek Fish Viewing Platform. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo | Seward Highway, Mile 23; Ptarmigan Creek Campground. | Construct viewing platform overlooking Ptarmigan Creek. | Scoping ended October 1998. | To begin February 1999 CZMA - DFA (3) | March 1999 District Ranger | Susan Howell (907) 224-3374 |
| Outfitter/Guide Special Use Permit. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo. | Godwin Glacier near Seward, Sec. 3, T.1S., R.1E. | Outfitter proposes to set up summer base camp on Godwin Glacier and offer dog sled and helicopter trips. | Began April 30, 1998. Ended June 5, 1998. | In Progress CZMA - DFA (3) | Spring 1999 District Ranger | Karen O'Leary or Shannon Skibeness (907) 224-3374 |
| Hardwood Regeneration Project. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo. | Various sites on the Seward District. | Mature stands of birch, willow, and aspen, from 5 to 40 acres in size will be felled to improve wildlife habitat. Sites may be scarified, planted, or burned after felling. | Ongoing | Ongoing CZMA - DFA (3) | Decisions will be made at various times by the Seward District Ranger. | Susan Howell (907) 224-3374 |
| Bean Creek Prescribed Burn. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo. | Cooper Landing, Bean Creek drainage, near E 1/2 Sec. 24, T.5N., R.4W.; and Sec. 19, T.5N, R.3W. | Broadcast burn 400 acres of bark beetle infested spruce and 600 acres of subalpine shrub to improve wildlife habitat and reduce wildfire hazard. | Ended October 1998. | Complete CZMA - DFA (3) | February 1999 District Ranger | Susan Howell (907) 224-3374 |
| Johns Creek Prescribed Burn. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo. | Seward Highway, Mile 40-42, north of the Sterling/Seward Highway junction. | Broadcast burn timber sale slash to speed site regeneration and improve wildlife habitat. | March 1999. | In Progress CZMA - DFA (3) | April 1999 District Ranger | Mark Kromrey (907) 224-3374 |
| Stetson Creek North and South Prescribed Burn. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo. | Northwest of Cooper Lake, Cooper Landing. Sections 7,17,18,20, and 21, T.4N., R.3W. | Broadcast burn 250 acres of beetle infested spruce and 450 acres of subalpine shrub north of Stetson Creek. Broadcast burn 450 acres of beetle infested spruce and 300 acres of subalpine shrub south of Stetson Creek to improve wildlife habitat, and reduce wildfire hazard. | Ended October 1998. | Complete CZMA - DFA (3) | February 1999 District Ranger | Susan Howell (907) 224-3374 |
| Fox Creek North Prescribed Burn Unit. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo. | South of Hope along Resurrection Pass Trail, Section 31, T.8N, R.2W. | Broadcast burn 200 acres of bark beetle infested spruce/ hemlock, and 200 acres of subalpine shrub to improve wildlife habitat. | Ended October 1998. | In Progress CZMA - DFA (3) | February 1999 District Ranger | Susan Howell (907) 224-3374 |

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| East Fork Creek 16/17 Prescribed Burn Units. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo. | Johnson Pass, north trailhead, Sections 9, 15 and 16, T.7N., R.1E. | Broadcast burn 170 acres of mixed spruce/hardwood to improve wildlife habitat. | Ended October 1998. | Complete CZMA - DFA (3) | February 1999 District Ranger | Susan Howell (907) 224-3374 |
| Upper Russian Prescribed Burn. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo. | Near Cooper Landing, east of Upper Russian Lake, Section 13, T.3N., R.4W., Section 18, T.3N., R.3W., . | Broadcast burn 650 acres of bark beetle infested spruce and 400 acres of subalpine shrub to improve wildlife habitat and reduce wildfire hazard. | Ended October 1998. | Complete CZMA - DFA (3) | February 1999 District Ranger | Susan Howell (907) 224-3374 |
| Juneau Creek Unit 1 Prescribed Burn. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo. | North of Cooper Landing along Resurrection Pass Hiking Trail, Section 1, T5N, R.4W., Section 36, T.6N., R.4W. | Broadcast burn 400 acres of beetle infested spruce and 400 acres of subalpine shrub to improve wildlife habitat and reduce wildfire hazard. | Ended October 1998. | Complete CZMA - DFA (3) | February 1999 District Ranger | Susan Howell (907) 224-3374 |
| Quartz Creek Unit 35 Prescribed Burn. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo. | East of Cooper Landing, Sections 7,8,17, and 18, T5N, R.2W. | Broadcast burn 150 acres of mixed spruce/hardwood and 600 acres of subalpine shrub to improve wildlife habitat. | Ended October 1998. | Complete CZMA - DFA (3) | February 1999 District Ranger | Susan Howell (907) 224-3374 |
| Special Use Permits. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo. | Various locations on the Seward District. | Several new and existing special use permit applications for such activities as log storage sites, outfitter/guide operations and recreation events will be evaluated. | Ongoing as applications are received. | Ongoing CZMA - FL/P (1) | Decisions will be made as various times by the Seward District Ranger. | Karen O'Leary or Shannon Skibeness (907) 224-3374 |
| Mining Plans of Operation. Categorically Excluded Action with Project File. | Various locations on the Seward District. | Mining plans of operations for placer and hardrock mineral deposits will be evaluated as received. | Ongoing as received. | Ongoing CZMA - FL/P (1) | Decisions will be made at various times by the Seward District Ranger. | Donna Peterson (907) 224-3374. |

Note 1: Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) Categories:
DFA = Direct Federal Activity (15 CFR 930.30):
 (1) FS will provide either a consistency determination or negative determination to the Alaska Division of Governmental Coordination (DGC).
 (2) The project is listed as categorically consistent with the Alaska Coastal Management Program (ACMP).
 (3) FS does not expect to provide a consistency determination or negative determination.
 (4) The FS has not decided whether it intends to provide a consistency determination.
FL/P = Federal License or Permit (15 CFR 930.50):
 (1) Permit applicant must provide a consistency certification to DGC and obtain DGC approval activity commences on the Chugach National Forest.
 (2) ACMP consistency certification not required unless DGC requests it within 30 days.

Note 2: This is a correction of the wording in the January 1999 edition of the Schedule of Proposed Actions.